



Washington, D.C. 20505

26 APR 1985

The Honorable Bob Stump
Ranking Minority Member
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Stump:

The Administration has now cleared the draft FY 86 Intelligence Authorization Bill for Congressional action. Title V, Support for Defense Intelligence Activities, would give DoD statutory authority to establish and operate commercial entities as cover support for DoD intelligence collection activities.

CIA supports DoD's efforts to achieve legislative enactment of this authority. Military intelligence requirements have become more and more demanding, particularly in regions where United States military presence is absent or where our official presence is small or closely watched. DoD intelligence collectors need the operational tools this legislation provides, i.e., nonofficial commercial cover, to enhance their capability to gather the information needed by commanders throughout the world.

Military intelligence operations are an integral part of the combined Intelligence Community effort. The proposed legislation would neither change nor increase DoD's intelligence mission nor create a DoD activity duplicating CIA's. It would, however, provide a more secure operating environment for DoD intelligence collection activities and facilitate access to targets not readily accessible under current scenarios. DoD and CIA already have established viable intelligence collection coordination procedures. Any use of the authority granted in this legislation would continue to be coordinated with CIA under those same procedures so as to avoid any duplication of effort. CIA is prepared, upon enactment, to brief DoD regarding its experience in establishing proprietaries. A copy of this letter is also being provided to Chairman Hamilton.

Sincerely,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature, which appears to be "Clair E. George".

Clair E. George
Deputy Director for Operations

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